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two smaller sideboards. In the centre of the room a square walnut-wood table. The chairs are covered with boa-skin, and studded with historical brass nails. The backs of the chairs are surmounted by two dogs' heads, threatening each other, and holding in their mouths a large ring that seems to support the back of



the seat. Dogs'-paws form the chair-legs. Both heads and paws are of carved walnut, touched up with gold. The owner's monogram is placed in a corner of the back. A Dutch chandelier hangs from the centre of the ceiling. Old-fashioned candle-holders in the corners. A Persian carpet on the floor."

The boudoir he describes is Turkish throughout. "The walls are covered with 'repoussé' paper, imitating Turkish embroidery, and are framed by silk cords, held up by crescents, from which depend Thibet tassels. The window is ornamented by a fretwork gallery and arabesque designs. The curtains are made of a plain-colored thick silk-and-wool material; the trimming consists of bands of Oriental embroidery put on crosswise, and marabout braid. A divan couch is made of one large cushion for a base, and several smaller ones on top; these cushions are covered with Oriental stuffs, and have a drapery of Turkish blue stuff. Here and there several low Turkish ottomans; a small dressing-table of Eastern shape and decoration, the top of white onyx, the base in enamel; a large Psyche looking-glass and two arm-chairs similar to the table; a low, small table; a real Turkish stool; a small bamboo X covered by a large Turkish brass tray—for tea or coffee; a Turkish bookcase, large and small mirrors, all in the same style; a variety of painted-wood brackets, covered with many Turkish knickknacks. Here and there 'cloisonné' enamelled flower-cases of divers shapes, or placed close to each other, with a small fountain in the centre."

#### NEW WOOD-COLORING METHODS.

SOME valuable experiments have been made recently by Herr Schöen, of Würtemberg. In a recent communication to the Mulhausen Gewerbeverein he said he had tried to give oaken objects an old look by rubbing aniline oil on them, but without good results; the

wood took a color which rather reminded one of mahogany, and was but very superficial. On the other hand, he got a dark brown tone similar to that of old oak by saturating the wood first with a solution of aniline salt (sulphate of aniline), and then with caustic soda. Similar results were obtained with walnut and plumbtree wood, etc. Caustic potash alone, of course, gave a somewhat similar action, but inferior to that with simultaneous use of aniline salt. Herr Schöen further attempted to color wood black by treating it successively with aniline salt, bichromate of potash, and caustic soda, the wood being dried after each operation. The color thus obtained is very regular. The experiment succeeded with all the kinds of wood tried—the most important home species and some foreign. These coloring methods are quickly and easily carried out, and are very inexpensive.

#### JAPANESE DECORATED PANELS.

THE panel decorations in Japanese style which we publish on this page, are from the facile brush of Professor Camille Piton, of Philadelphia. The flat round moon among the black clouds and the two birds which might be carolling, "à la Sullivan," "Fair Moon, to thee I sing," are drawn with spirit, and might be adapted to needlework embroidery, or for a variety of smaller articles of drapery. The other design shows how, with a few touches skilfully applied, a great diversity of effect can be obtained.

The right-hand panel on the opposite page is remarkable for the boldness of the decoration, which, it will be noticed, extends outside of the limited space of the groundwork. With what charming effect the design is formed by the combination of two plates quite opposed in outline!

#### PEACOCKS' FEATHERS FOR DECORATION.

THESE beautiful feathers can be applied to so many purposes for decoration that a few suggestions for utilizing them will certainly be welcome. The person who is so fortunate as to possess a whole peacock can hardly have a more beautiful ornament for a fireplace than Juno's bird with its tail spread out in the open grate. Long peacocks' feathers are often put into long glass vases, with cat-tails, Pampas grass, etc., in the corners of rooms or on tables, and they look well, especially long glasses tastefully arranged with large sprays of wild cherry blossom, ivy, and any thing that can be had in the way of ornamental foliage, feathery grasses adding considerably to the beauty. Thus all the year round these glasses can be kept filled, with constant variations. Mats for standing in windows, made of coarse ticking or sacking, with peacocks' feathers arranged round and round, and sewn on, are very handsome, and a rug of dark rich-colored velvet with a broad band of feathers is most effective. These feathers can also be arranged on ticking or crash, and afterward put on a cardboard shape as covers for flower-pots. They should be sewn on perpendicularly, close together, and should completely hide the edge of the foundation. Small circular mats for the flower-pot to stand on, made to match, complete the whole arrangement very effectively. A pretty white sheeting table-cloth is edged with deep coarse lace, with a band of small peacocks' feathers at the top. At equal distances two of the "eye" feathers are crossed and tacked on, the quill being turned toward the border. The thread which attaches them to the cloth is first threaded with gold beads, which make a sort of little brooch ornament. The feathers are cut about five inches long, and arranged at about two inches from the feather band.

#### LUXURY BEHIND THE SCENES.

THE correspondents of the French journals who have accompanied to London Sara Bernhardt and her fellow-artists of the Theatre Française complain of the wretched dressing-rooms provided for the ladies of the company. Mr. G. W. Smalley, in one of his letters to The New York Tribune, says: "A first-rate actress at the Française is luxuriously installed between the acts. She has a large saloon furnished with couches, easy chairs, mirrors stretching from floor to ceiling, and

cheval glasses which enable her to judge of the effect of her robe in its ensemble, and in each of its details. Splendid ceramics ornament the consoles and the mantelpiece; and window-gardening is carried to perfection on the balcony. Rare pictures, and marble and terra-cotta busts of the fair occupant, give a charmingly artistic finish to the chamber. At the Française greater severity is affected in the dressing-rooms of the actresses than in most of the other theatres. Mesdemoiselles Croizette and Sarah Bernhardt, however, have departed from the tradition of elegant simplicity, and indulge in fantastic imaginings to an extent which would have made the tragedy queens and leading comedienues of former days stare with sheer amazement. One severe winter the enslaver of the Duc d'Aumale had her apartment hung round with ermine. The curtains were thickly fringed with the dark tails, and the floor covered with Russian sable. Couches and sofas were in crimson satin, tufted with buttercup yellow, and the tiring woman was a mulatto dressed in the liveliest colors and adorned with the showiest jewels. Eighteenth century pictures adorned the walls. . . . Mademoiselle Sarah Bernhardt, not to be outstripped in eccentricity, caused her dressing-room to be done up in black velvet and silver, and settees having the form of coffins to be ranged round it."

#### IMITATION GROUND GLASS.

A CAPITAL imitation of ground glass that steam will not destroy may be made as follows: Put a piece of putty in muslin, twist the fabric tight, and tie it into the shape of a pad; well clean the glass first, and then putty it all over. The putty will exude sufficiently through the muslin to render the stain opaque. Let it dry hard, and then varnish. If a pattern is required,



cut it out in paper as a stencil; place it so as not to slip, and proceed as above, removing the stencil when finished. If there should be any objection to the existence of the clear spaces, cover with slightly opaque varnish. In this way very neat and cheap signs may be painted on glass doors.